



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.N. Neogi et al. Attorney Docket No.: 25194

Application No.: 10/602,208 Group Art Unit: 3725

Filed: June 23, 2003

Title: METHODS FOR ESTERIFYING HYDROXYL GROUPS IN WOOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. Copies of the listed patents, publications, and other information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
3. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}

Laura A. Cruz
Registration No. 46,649
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1725

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100



**INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANTS THAT MAY BE MATERIAL
TO THE PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION**

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner	Cite	Kind	Date		
Initials	No.	Document No.	Code	(mm/dd/yyyy)	Name
	U1	4,804,384		02/14/1989	Rowell et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner	Cite	Kind	Publication Date	English			
Initial	No.	Document No.	Code	(mm/dd/yyyy)	Country	Abstract	Translation
	F1	WO 03/053105 A1		June 26, 2003	PCT	x	Provided

OTHER INFORMATION

*Examiner	Cite	
Initial	No.	Description (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
	O1	"Acetylation of Wood - An Environmentally Sound Wood Modification Method," A-Cell Acetyl Cellulosics AB.
	O2	Beckers, E.P.J. and H. Militz, "Acetylation of Solid Wood: Initial Trials on Lab and Semi Industrial Scale," <i>Second Pacific Rim Bio-Based Composites Symposium Proceedings</i> , Vancouver, Canada, November 6-9, 1994, pp. 125-134.
	O3	Brelid, P.L., "The Influence of Post-Treatments on Acetyl Content for Removal of Chemicals After Acetylation," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 60:92-95, 2002.
	O4	Brelid, P.L., et al., "Acetylation of Solid Wood Using Microwave Heating, Part 1: Studies of Dielectric Properties," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 57:259-263, 1999.
	O5	Brelid, P.L., and R. Simonson, "Acetylation of Solid Wood Using Microwave Heating, Part 2: Experiments in Laboratory Scale," <i>Holz als Roh und Werkstoff</i> 57:383-389, 1999.

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CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100



- O6 Chow, P., et al., "Effects of Acetylation on the Dimensional Stability and Decay Resistance of Kenaf (*Hibiscus cannabinus* L.) Fiberboard," *The International Research Group on Wood Preservation 27th Annual Meeting*, West Indies, May 19-24, 1996, pp. 1-7.
- O7 Evans, P.D., "Weathering and Stabilisation of Wood," *ANU Forestry-Forest Product Technology*, pp. 1-4, 2000.
- O8 Feist, W.C., et al., "Weathering and Finish Performance of Acetylated Aspen Fiberboard," *Wood and Fiber Science* 23(2):260-272, 1991.
- O9 Hill, C.A.S., et al., "Kinetic and Mechanistic Aspects of the Acetylation of Wood with Acetic Anhydride," *Holzforschung* 52:623-629, 1998.
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- O11 Ramsden, M.J., and F.S.R. Blake, "A Kinetic Study of the Acetylation of Cellulose Hemicellulose and Lignin Components in Wood," *Wood Science and Technology* 31:45-50, 1997.
- O12 Rowell, R.M., "Acetyl Balance for the Acetylation of Wood Particles by a Simplified Procedure," *Holzforschung* 44(4):263-269, 1990.
- O13 Rowell, R.M., et al., "Acetyl Distribution in Acetylated Whole Wood and Reactivity of Isolated Wood Cell-Wall Components to Acetic Anhydride," *Wood and Fiber Science* 26(1):11-18, 1994.
- O14 Takahashi, M., et al., "Effect of Acetylation on Decay Resistance of Wood Against Brown-Rot, White-Rot and Soft-Rot Fungi," *The International Research Group on Wood Preservation 20th Annual Meeting*, Lappeenranta, Finland, May 22-26, 1989, pp. 1-16.
- O15 Tillman, A.-M., et al., "Dimensional Stability and Resistance to Biological Degradation of Wood Products by a Simplified Acetylation Procedure," *Oral Presentations of the Fourth International Symposium on Wood and Pulping Chemistry*, Paris, April 27-30, 1987, pp. 125-129.

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100